

made it very clear that he believes, for the interest of economic security and stability in the country, that the pay-go rules ought to apply on both the spending and the tax side. Because, of course, in either event, you can plunge yourself, as we believe we have, into deep deficits.

So I think that will be a good debate. We will obviously point to Mr. Greenspan's assertions, which we agree in this instance, that it is very difficult to control if you do not have pay-go applying on both sides of the ledger.

Lastly, if I might, as a distinguished member of the Committee on Ways and Means, a senior member of the Committee on Ways and Means, the gentleman knows that the Foreign Sales Corporation legislation has been pending for many, many months now. We are concerned, as you know, that the Europeans are now imposing sanctions as a result of the WTO's finding that we are not in compliance.

Can the gentleman tell me whether or not the FSC legislation will be on the floor any time soon; and, if so, whether or not the Rangel-Manzullo alternative will be made in order as an alternative?

I yield to my friend from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Maryland for yielding to me again.

The legislation is very much on our minds. As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means has worked hard on this legislation already. The gentleman mentioned the substitute which the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) may want to offer in committee. The tariff increases are beginning to take effect, increasing by 1 percent every month, so it is something we are working hard on.

We do want to work closely with the other body on this to be sure that we can actually enact legislation, as well as with the President and with his team, the U.S. Trade Representative's Office and the Treasury Department in particular. So we are working closely with them.

I do not know when legislation may come to the floor, but I understand that the Committee on Ways and Means is planning another meeting next week to discuss certain aspects of this, to be sure that as we repeal the FSC/ETI provisions, we are also providing adequate benefits for U.S. companies who are involved in global competition.

So this is a very high priority on our side of the aisle and we continue to work toward that goal.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments, and while I accept his premise that it is a high priority, very frankly, I will tell my friend from Ohio, there is no doubt we could have passed a bipartisan supported bill here with a very substantial number of votes many, many months ago. That was not the determination, apparently, of the committee to report out such a bill. We think that is unfortunate.

We believe that if the Rangel-Crane or the Rangel-Manzullo bill, or the Manzullo-Rangel bill were reported out, I think we would see well over 225 to 230 votes for that, maybe more. But in any event, I appreciate the gentleman's comments.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield a moment.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to yield to the gentleman.

Mr. PORTMAN. I respect the gentleman's vote-counting ability, as he knows, but being on the committee, I can say that I am not certain such a bill could have even been reported out the committee because there are many complexities with responding to this tough issue.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Speaker, if I can just briefly, I share the gentleman's view. I do not think such a bill could be reported out of the Committee on Ways and Means either. Our perception is, as the gentleman well knows, it is tough to pass bipartisan bills out of the Committee on Ways and Means because I do not think there is any interest in doing that. I think that is unfortunate because this is a critical problem confronting us.

I think we could have, as we have in the past, and the drug reimportation being a perfect example of a bill that passed very handily in a bipartisan fashion through this House. Unfortunately, it did not make it out of the conference committee. Notwithstanding the fact that both Houses were for it, there were people who were not for it.

But this is a critical problem, and my only suggestion to my good friend, with whom I have worked in a very bipartisan fashion on very successful legislation, and I know the gentleman's inclination is to do that, to legislate, not just to throw bombs at one another. I thank the gentleman for his observation and hope, in fact, that he is correct and we move on this quickly. And if it is not a bipartisan bill as it comes to the floor, I hope that we do provide for the minority an opportunity to offer an alternative which we think will be in the best interest of this country. We will debate that and the majority will prevail.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments and thank him for the information.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The Chair will recognize Members for special order speeches without prejudice to the possible resumption of legislative business.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

LOSS OF JOBS IN OHIO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, yesterday President Bush made a campaign trip to Cleveland to speak to small business people to explain his economic policy and to try to answer why Ohio has lost 300,000 jobs in the last 3 years; to try to explain why Ohio has lost 160,000 manufacturing jobs; that one out of every six manufacturing jobs in Ohio has disappeared, likely permanently for most of them. One out of six jobs in manufacturing has disappeared since President Bush took office.

He also came to Ohio to answer why the head of his council, the chairman of his Council of Economic Advisers, Gregory Mankiw, said that outsourcing of jobs, jobs moving overseas, that Mr. Mankiw said and the President signed a report supporting this, that outsourcing was a good thing because it makes the economy more efficient.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think the President needs to explain a little better. Last week, I was in Akron, in my district. Akron, Ohio. I spoke to some company owners who own small machine shops with 50 employees, 30 employees, or 100 employees, but all small manufacturing businesses. One owner of a machine shop came up to me before I spoke. He gave me a stack of these fliers. He actually gave me about four times this many, about six or seven inches of fliers. He told me that he gets about this many fliers every month, and he says these fliers are auction fliers. They basically are notifications from companies all over the United States that are having fire sales; that are having going-out-of-business sales.

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Mr. Speaker, here is an auction flyer that says high-tech manufacturing plant closing in Elk Grove, Indiana.

Another one is a plant closed, everything sells, from Verona, Pennsylvania. Here are two complete stamping and machine tool shops closing. They are selling all their equipment. They are looking for buyers. This is from Oak Brook, Illinois.

Here is a plant closing, everything must sell, from North Carolina.

Another one here from Marion, Ohio, complete shop close-out auction. The absolute auction, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, in my district, complete liquidation of the Cuyahoga Falls plant.

Precision C&C job shop downsizing because of outsourcing, from Scottsboro, Alabama.

Another one from Massachusetts, large-capacity fabricating and machine shop closing.

Another one, 3 days, two tremendous public auctions, two companies, machinery and equipment and real estate. Plant closed, everything must go, real estate for sale.

Another company, plant closed, everything sells.

Another one from Ross, Ohio, plant closing due to relocation overseas.

Another one from Medina, Ohio, facility closed, all must go.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think the President understands the depths of this problem in this country. These are companies, hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of companies representing hundreds of thousands of workers who are going out of business, who are downsizing, who are shipping their jobs overseas; yet the President says that he supports outsourcing, that outsourcing is a good thing.

The President needs to look in the eye of some of those 800,000 workers in this country who have seen their unemployment compensation expire in the last 3 months, and this Republican Congress refuses to extend those benefits. It is not just 800,000 workers. It is 800,000 families; it is millions of children; it is communities; it is our schools. Everyone is affected by the plant closings.

The President's answer, if there is bad economic news, and if he looked at some of these plant closings, fire sales, going out of business auction brochures, he would say we need to do more tax cuts for the wealthy, maybe some of it will trickle down and create jobs; we need to do more trade agreements like NAFTA. That is the President's answer to every bad piece of economic news. When the President sees unemployment goes up, he says more tax cuts for the most privileged and more trade agreements that hemorrhage jobs overseas.

When the President sees bad economic numbers, terrible trade deficits, the highest in history, our trade deficit with China alone is now \$124 billion, and that is where a lot of these companies are going, the President's answer is we need more trade agreements like NAFTA and tax cuts for the wealthiest people in the country.

Mr. Speaker, we need to pass Crane-Rangel, which will give incentives for

domestic manufacturers and small businesses. We need to extend unemployment compensation to those 800,000 families.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISSA). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DREIER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. FILNER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GINGREY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ECONOMIC GROWTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, a few months ago I came down to the floor to talk about our economy and the steps that President Bush and Congress have taken to offset the recession and the trillion-dollar impact of September 11 on our economy.

Part of my remarks that day focused on tax relief and the effect it has had in helping our families, working families, and small businesses weather what has been some tough economic times; and I think it is important that we reiterate our support for tax relief because there are those across the aisle who are increasingly supportive of raising your tax bill. I want to let my constituents in the Seventh Congressional District of Tennessee know that I am standing beside tax relief legislation. I stand with cutting their tax bills.

In 2003 under Republican leadership and under Republican tax legislation, 91 million taxpayers received on average a tax cut in the amount of \$1,126. This is real relief for 91 million Americans. So when the rhetoric from the other side of the aisle starts flying that tax relief is only for the rich, you can judge for yourself whether you think 91 million Americans would consider themselves rich.

A few months ago, candidates for the Democratic nomination were all calling for tax increases. Virtually all of them opposed the tax relief which has allowed 91 million Americans to keep more of their hard-earned paychecks. On July 28, a Washington Post column

proclaimed: "Candidates Not Shying Away From Tax Talk: Candidates Discuss Raises, Not Cuts."

It is important to note they may think you can tax your way to prosperity, but you cannot. You cannot. We know that it is important to leave that money with the taxpayer. Well, today we have a single Democratic candidate, and he is on record for raising some income tax brackets to pre-Bush levels. The question every American needs to consider is this: Why should we raise taxes? What do higher taxes do to the economy? It is a simple answer: higher taxes take capital out of the private sector and give government more money to spend.

I think a vast majority of Americans, and I know the folks in my district, know that higher taxes do not grow our economy; they grow the government.

Something else I think the American people should know is that the tax relief that we have passed, the tax relief responsible for giving 91 million Americans an average of \$1,126 in relief last year is not permanent. In short, this tax relief will end in 2011; and at that point, virtually all taxpayers will start facing higher tax bills. Democrats largely do not support making this relief permanent. Americans will again be subject to the marriage tax, the death tax. A family of four making \$36,268 will see a tax hike of over \$2,000; that is if we do not make permanent our tax relief legislation, and that is something that we are working to do.

The President and this Congress are working to ensure that this relief is permanent, and I look forward to the debate because we are on the side of lower taxes, economic growth, not tax hikes and big government. We are for leaving the money with those who earn it.

MCGOVERN-DOLE FOOD FOR EDUCATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, currently there are more than 300 million chronically hungry children in the world. Around 130 million of these children, mainly girls, do not attend school. The rest go to school hungry, severely limiting their ability to learn. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's McGovern-Dole International Food for Education Program is helping to change this grim reality. One exciting example of this program is taking place in Afghanistan where World Vision is making a difference in the lives of 37,000 children.

In Afghanistan, 52 percent of children under 5 are malnourished. Access to education is extremely limited, and the quality of education, when available, is poor. The Taliban largely excluded girls from formal education, and women were prohibited from teaching. The World Bank estimates the primary